

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently amended) A method of screening for a disorder suppressor gene of a neurodegenerative disorder of a cranial nervous system, wherein said method comprises the steps of:

(a) expressing in a population of cells a library of nucleic acids obtained from or synthesized from nucleic acids expressed in a tissue of a nerve or brain of an organism suffering from [[a]] the neurodegenerative disorder of a cranial nervous system, wherein said tissue is obtained from an organ area showing cell death as a pathological feature of the disorder;

(b) detecting a suppressive effect on the disorder due to the expression of [[the]] a nucleic acid of the library; and,

(c) selecting the nucleic acid having the suppressive effect;  
thereby identifying a disorder suppressor gene of the disorder.

3. (Withdrawn) A method of screening for a disorder suppressor polypeptide or a disorder suppressor gene encoding said polypeptide, wherein said method comprises the steps of:

(a) administering to a cell (i) a polypeptide derived from a tissue of an organism suffering from a disorder that accompanies cell death, or (ii) a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid derived from said tissue, wherein said tissue is derived from an area affected by the disorder or from the vicinity of the affected area,

(b) detecting a suppressive effect on the disorder due to the expression of the nucleic acid, and,

(c) selecting the nucleic acid having the suppressive effect.

4. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 2, comprising the step of inducing the cell death associated with said disorder before, during or after step (a), and ~~detecting wherein~~ the suppressive effect on the disorder in step (b) ~~using the~~ ~~is a~~ suppression of cell death ~~as an index~~.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) The method according to claim [[5]] 2, wherein said disorder ~~of the cranial nervous system~~ is Alzheimer's Disease.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) A method for testing a suppressive effect of a nucleic acid on a neurodegenerative disorder of a cranial nervous system, wherein said method comprises the steps of:

(a) expressing in a population of cells a library of nucleic acids obtained from or synthesized from a nucleic acids expressed in a tissue of a nerve or brain of an organism suffering from [[a]] the neurodegenerative disorder of a cranial nervous system, wherein said tissue is obtained from an organ area showing cell death as a pathological feature of the disorder, and,

(b) detecting the suppressive effect on the disorder due to the expression of the a nucleic acid of the library; thereby identifying a suppressive effect of a nucleic acid on the disorder.

9. (Withdrawn) A method for testing a suppressive effect of a polypeptide on a disorder, wherein said method comprises the steps of:

(a) administering to a cell (i) a polypeptide derived from a tissue of an organism suffering from a disorder that accompanies cell death, or (ii) a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic

acid derived from said tissue, wherein said tissue is derived from an area affected by the disorder or from the vicinity of the affected area; and

(b) detecting the suppressive effect on the disorder due to the administration of the polypeptide.

10. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 8, comprising the step of inducing the cell death associated with said disorder before, during or after step (a), and ~~detecting wherein~~ the suppressive effect on the disorder in the step (b) ~~using the~~ ~~is a~~ suppression of cell death ~~as an index~~.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently amended) The method according to claim [[11]] 8, wherein said disorder of the cranial nervous system is Alzheimer's Disease.

13-17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein a plurality of nucleic acids that cause the suppressive effect are identified, further comprising:

(d) cross-hybridizing the nucleic acids to each other to identify non-redundant groups.

19. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein a plurality of nucleic acids that cause the suppressive effect are identified, further comprising:

(d) cross-hybridizing the nucleic acids to each other to identify non-redundant groups.

20. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, further comprising, prior to step (a),

- (i) obtaining the nucleic acids expressed in the tissue of the organism suffering from the disorder; and
- (ii) constructing the library of nucleic acids therefrom.

21. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 8, further comprising, prior to step (a),

- (i) obtaining the nucleic acids expressed in the tissue of the organism suffering from the disorder; and
- (ii) constructing the library of nucleic acids therefrom.